

Meat rationing will soon begin, and in the meanwhile we will have a reduction of the supply of meat for civilian consumption. This was announced today by Secretary of Agriculture Wickard.

The reduction of the supply will start on the first of October, when meat deliveries for civilians will be cut by twenty-one percent. Civilians will get eighty percent of their present supplies of beef and veal, ninety-five per cent of lamb, ^{and} mutton, and seventy-five percent of pork.

So we are asked to cut our meat consumption to two and a ~~half~~ half pounds a week. We now eat slightly less than three pounds a week.

The reduction of supply will be in effect for three months, and then rationing will be introduced. The Secretary ~~of~~ of Agriculture stated ~~in~~ today that the Office of Price Administration has been asked to prepare a coupon system for nationwide meat rationing. He said the coupon plan would be ready in about three months.

We will not have meatless days, such as we had in the

previous world war. They do not work, the Secretary explained because people tend to eat more meat on other days. So rationing is the only way out.

There's a threatened shortage. People are buying more meat - because of the ^{increased}~~increased~~ purchasing power of the war workers. And, on the other hand, there is a great military need, Secretary Wickard stating ^{that} "the men in the armed forces will eat twice as much meat as the civilian consumers".

47
Moreover, we have got to supply Soviet Russia with fresh foods. "Russia's needs have been growing, because of the Nazi penetration of the Ukraine", said the Secretary of Agriculture. Hence the need of cutting down civilian meat consumption in this country.

INFLATION

A grave statement was made today in the United States Senate. Administration leader Senator ^{Prentiss} Brown of Michigan spoke the following words:- "In my judgement", said he, "the Congress of the United States and the President are headed for a collision. I have done my utmost, he added, to avoid that collision".

This followed a conference between representatives of the President and members of the farm bloc of Congress. The discussion concerned that ~~was~~ number one point of political dispute - farm prices, the restriction to be put on farm prices in the battle against inflation, the level at which they are to be held, the ceiling.

48
The Senators ha^d passed a bill to pe^rmit the President to prevent farm prices from rising above -- parity. But now there's an amendment up that would cause a recalculation of parity, a recomputation that would raise parity -- and therefore elevate the ceiling. The President is against this amendment. The farm ~~is~~ bloc in Congress is for it.

At the conference today Administration leaders offer a compromise, but the farm bloc rejected it. They walked out of the meeting and voted to stand pat on their demand for a recalculation of ~~parity~~ parity. And it seems as if they might have the votes to put the idea across.

All of this follows the drastic message that the President sent to Congress some while ago, a message in which he stated that if Congress did not give him the authority to limit farm prices to parity, he would do it on his own - by virtue of his war powers. and never mind the law passed by Congress. So now what will happen if Congress ~~should~~ should pass the parity recalculation ~~to~~ to which the President is so thoroughly opposed?

49
Today Administration leader Senator Brown stated that, if the parity amendment ~~was~~ were passed, the President would veto the measure. And thereafter he would limit farm prices by the authority of his war power, - by executive order, to halt inflation. And to that Senator Brown added his warning about -- a head-on collision between Congress and

the President.

The Senate Finance Committee has voted to freeze social security levies during Nineteen Forty-Three. That is to say - not to in^{crease} the percentages now taken for Social Security. At present both employers and employees pay each one per cent of wages. The law, as it stands, provides that these rates should be ~~double~~ doubled on January First - both employers and employees to contribute two per cent of wages. This change from one to two percent is what the Senate Finance Committee opposes. So the committee voted today to keep Social Security levies during Nineteen Forty-Three the same as they are now. (Senator ~~WALTER~~ Vandenberg explained that any increase in the percentage taken for old-age benefits was -- totally ~~unnecessary~~ unnecessary. He said the reserve of money piled up by Social Security now amounts to between three and four billion dollars. This he said, is more than six ~~times~~ times the amount of money that will be paid out ~~as~~ as benefits during the next five years.)

50

RUSSIA

The Soviet fight at Stalingrad continues to be a ~~XXXXXX~~ surprise -- with Red Army forces driving the Nazis back ^again. Moscow reports that Soviet troops, striking in a powerful counter offensive northwest of Stalingrad have broken through the first German defense line and Berlin talks of what it calls -- "strong Soviet counter attacks". ^{TP} The Stalingrad battle has really two phases -- ~~the~~ one in the city, where the Germans broke into the maze of streets. The other battle is outside of Stalingrad -- in sectors where the Germans have not reached the city. In both of these phases, the Russians are either holding their own in a bitter defense ~~of~~ or are attacking. ^{TP} The fact that they are able to drive the Germans back ~~at~~ at various ~~points~~ points makes it appear that the Hitler people ~~will~~ have a long struggle ahead of them before they get Stalingrad -- if they finally do.

51

WILLKIE

Today's news about Wendell Willkie ~~ix~~ in Russia is more a ~~pic~~ picture than a matter of words. Moscow newspapers today had most of their front page covered with a huge photograph of Willkie and Stalin, standing together and smiling. The photo was printed eight columns wide.

It was, in fact, the principal item of news about the meeting of our nineteen forty- presidential candidate, who is President Roosevelt's Emissary, and Stalin the War Chief of Soviet Russia. As to what transpired between them, what they talked about, no information was published -- only the picture. But it is well enough known that one of the topics was the question of the second front -- with Willkie finding plenty of Russian discontent because the British and Americans have not invaded Nazi controlled territories in Europe.

52

The Navy today announced the loss of two American warships - the fifteen hundred ton destroyer ~~XXX~~ Jarvis, and an obsolete ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ [^] destroyer that had been turned into an auxiliary transport. This latter an old World War craft called, the Little. Both vessels were casualties of the Battle of the Solomons.

The Destroyer Jarvis was hit by enemy air bombs in a fight off Guadalcanal. The ship was damaged, but seemed to be able to get to port for repairs. The vessel started out, and has not been seen since. The Navy report states:- "The Jarvis has been overdue for several weeks, and an intensive search by ships and aircraft has failed to locate her or reveal any trace of her personnel." The normal complement of the destroyer was a hundred and seventy two men.

53
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The auxiliary transport Little, when sunk, had aboard a crew of a hundred, ^{also} ~~and~~ [^] about a hundred soldiers. Approximately half of the men were saved.

Against today's announcement of ship losses that we have incurred in the Solomons, we may repeat the loss the Jap enemy has taken - at least twenty-four vessels of war sunk or damaged.

HIGHWAY

Our great military highway to Alaska will be ready for use by about December first, and that ^{'s} several months ahead of schedule. The announcement was made today by Secretary of War Stimson, who praised the engineering troops ^{who} ~~that~~ are constructing the sixteen hundred mile road.

They did their work under the greatest of difficulties - difficulties of both winter and summer. They braved the cold, temperatures as low as thirty-five degrees below zero - so cold that they couldn't drive pegs for ~~xxxx~~ tents into the frozen ground.

54
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Later on, they had to labor in ninety degrees of heat, with mosquitos and other ~~inxxx~~ insects so bad that they had to wear gloves and nets to keep from being devoured. Any traveler who has been up there in the north will sympathize - knowing the bitterness of winter ~~is~~ cold, and ^{of} sultry summer plagued by clouds of mosquitoes.

The new military road, passing through Canada to Alaska, is to be known as the Alcan Highway. Short for Alaska-Canada - and who wouldn't want to take a motor trip

along the Alcan Highway. Which perhaps we'll ^{all}~~xxxx~~ be able
to do - after the War.

WRECK

The tragic likelihood is that a score of persons lost their lives in the Maryland train wreck today. The accident was a thing of frightful mischance - a three train collision. A freight and two passenger trains piled up.

The sequence of events began when the night express running from Cleveland to Washington, encountered mechanical trouble, and stalled. It was standing ~~there~~ there when another passenger train came rushing in the same direction - the Ambassador, Detroit to Washington. The Ambassador crashed into the rear of the night express, and the force of collision threw the last Pullman onto the adjoining rails. And just at that moment ~~front~~ freight train number ~~sixteen~~ eighteen, was coming along. The freight train hit the Pullman lying across the tracks - to complete the three train collision.

55

FIGHT

The great prizefight extravaganza scheduled to be fought out between Champion Joe Louis and Challenger Billy Conn, is producing a rumpus as violent as the fracas in the ring has been expected to be. Both the champion and challenger are in the Army, ~~and~~ The arrangements of the bout have been under Army auspices; and Secretary Stimson stated today that he was - shocked, shocked by various doings connected with the wartime battle of the century. At his press conference today, Secretary Stimson said:- "I did not learn the details of that fight until this morning. I've been shocked at the situation", he said, and added: "I am making a personal investigation which I hope will be finished in forty-eight hours".

56
He did not specify just what the details were that shocked him, but they are understood to be financial - the old dollar sign.

The arrangements for the big bout have been in charge of a committee of newspaper sports writers, a committee formed under the name of "War Boxing, Incorporated". They making the arrangements - subject to the approval of the War Department.

The actual staging of the fight to be directed by Mike Jacobs, acting as promotor - Mike Jacobs who is the Manager of Madison Square Garden of New York, and ~~is~~ the Number One Big Show in boxing affairs.

It was announced to begin with, that the entire proceeds of the championship ring battle should go to Army Emergency Relief - with a million or two million dollar gate anticipated. No private individuals ^{to get any} ~~were to~~ profit -- because ^a in/war like this two service men should not be relieved of ~~any~~ duty to put on a show that would make civilian money for anybody.

~~Presently~~

~~Presently~~ Presently, however, it developed that a

57
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slice of the cash would go to somebody else. Not to the fighters themselves, however - but to their creditors. Champion Joe Louis and Challenger Billy Conn owed a lot of money apparently, and they would get a cut of the cash, which they would hand over as payment on their debts.

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Champion Joe Louis ~~was~~ granted a Hundred Thousand

and Six Hundred and fifty-three dollars for this. Challenger Billy Conn, thirty-four thousand and five hundred dollars.

Meaning, a total of a hundred and thirty-five thousand, ~~one~~
hundred and fifty-three dollars ~~would~~^{to} go to the fighters'
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creditors.

Now who are these creditors? There are two, and the principal one is - Mike Jacobs, Promotor of the championship bout. It would seem that Jacobs is generous in his loans to headline boxers - they being in debt to him. Maybe this is one way to keep a string on them.

58
The arrangements provided that Joe Louis should pay some fifty-nine thousand dollars to Jacobs. Challenger Billy Conn was to pay Jacobs thirty-four thousand and five hundred dollars. Adding the figures, Promotor Jacobs was to derive a debt-paying total of more than ninety-four thousand dollars from the proceeds of the million or two million dollar brawl.

Today Promotor Mike Jacobs was queried about these financial angles. He said:- "I don't care anything about the money they owe me, I didn't ask anything out of the fight". To which he added:- "Louis mentioned the debt he owed me and

asked to be allowed to pay it off".

So there is the money complication, which has excited all the rumpus, with Secretary of War Stimson today employing the word - shocking. Some people think that, with all the jingling of coin, the wartime battle of the century is likely to be called off.

And now Hugh it's about time for this broadcast to be called off.